MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir. The lands required for laying tracks have been already taken possession through the State Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Cancellation on trains on the Delhi-Rewari Sector

2943. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Railways have cancelled some passenger trains on the Delhi-Rewari sector;

(b) whether the trains have been cancelled without prior notice and without any alternative arrangements for carrying the passengers; and

(c) whether Government are thinking of restoring the train services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Some services have already been restored and/or replaced by Broad Gauge services. Restoration and/or replacement by Broad Gauge services of the remaining trains will be considered subject to traffic requirements and the facilities available.

Extension of Navjeevan Express

2944. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered extension of Navjeevan Express upto Hapa (Jam Nagar) in Gujarat;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and by when it would be extended; and

(c) what would be the number of prorata reservation quota allotment to Rajkot and Hapa Railway Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b) Extension of 6045/6046 Navjeevan Express upto Hapa (Jam Nagar) has been examined but found either commercially justified nor feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

(c) Does not arise.

Conversion of Railways into independent holding company

2945. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for conversion of the railways into an independent holding company under the Company's Act and splitting of various zonal railways into smaller units; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that flow of high technology inputs into the Railways has virtually dried up since the early 1960's if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to meet the needs for massive infusion of technology inputs in almost all areas of railway operation with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise. However, technology improvements is an on-going process on Indian Railways. Some of the major technology inputs since 1960 pertain to Diesalisation and Electrification of Indian Railways, new designs of Rolling stock, continuous welded rails, colour light signalling, Route relay interlocking, Mechanised maintenance of track, Fitment of Air Brakes, Steel casting technology,

Manufacture of Wheels, Axles, tyres, etc. Recent development are fuel efficient diesel loco engines, design of prestressed concrete sleepers, DMUs, Rail Buses, 3-tier AC sleeper, Microprocessor based signalling equipment, Electronic Interlocking, design and development of modern turnouts on concrete sleepers, etc.

Overcrowding in trains

2946. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite inhuman condition of travel and overcrowding of trains in Sealdah-Bongaon section Government have taken no steps to compute the doubling of Barasat-Bongaon section, while vast sums of money are being invested elsewhere; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b), The position for the doubling of the Barasat and Bongaon section is as under:—

(i) Doubling work between Barasat and Duttapukkur (7.69 kms.) — line was opened for traffic on 24.3.1993.

(ii) Doubling between Duttapukkur to Habra (14.49 kms.) — Work is in progress.

(iii) Habra to Bongaon — doubling is not yet sanctioned.

Book sellers in Howrah-New Delhi Rajdhani Express

2947. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the booksellers of Howrah-New Delhi Rajdhani Express are not Railway employees;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the some booksellers of Bombay-New Delhi Rajdhani Express are Railway employees; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) to (c) On Howrah-New Delhi Rajdhani Express, books, magazines etc. are sold through a private licences whereas on Bombay-New Delhi Rajdhani/August Kranti Express trains, books, magazines etc. are sold to the passengers by Railway Catering Staff accompanying the train.

गया में जाली टिकटों की बिक्री

2948. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गया रेलवे स्टेशन पर जाली टिकटों की बिक्री से संबंधित एक मामला सरकार के ध्यान में आया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इसमें रेल कर्मचारी भी शामिल थे; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है तथा उन व्यक्तियों की संख्या कितनी है जिनके विरुद्ध इस संबंध में कार्रवाई की गई थी?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के॰ सी॰ लेंका): (क) और (ख) जी, हां।

(ग) पूर्व रेलवे के धोखाधड़ी निरोधक दस्ते द्वारा 28.11.93 को गया मुख्य बुकिंग कार्यालय में मारे गए छापे के दौरान, 1039 रुपए जिनका कोई हिसाब-किताब नहीं रखा गया था, के साथ-साथ ग्वालियर के लिये गया सिटी बुकिंग कार्यालय (शहर में स्थित) के 20 टिकट बरामद किये गये थे। काउंटर पर उस दिन तैनात एक बुकिंग क्लर्क को गिरफ्तार किया गया था और रेल प्रशासन द्वारा उसे निलंबित कर दिया गया था।